

# First Presbyterian Church of Bethlehem

## Christmas Eve



### Intergenerational Service 4 p.m.

December 24, 2021

PRELUDE It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

Richard Willis

Away in a Manger (Cradle Song)

William Kirkpatrick

Contemporary Ensemble

#### WELCOME AND PASSING OF THE PEACE

#### ADVENT WREATH LIGHTING

The Peterson Family

Leader: In God's house, there is hope—

For God loves us too much to leave us just as we are.

**People: Light the candle of hope.**

Leader: In God's house, there is peace—

For all that separates us from God falls away.

**People: Light the candle of peace.**

Leader: In God's house, there is joy—

Because God created music, and hot chocolate, and flowers, and laughter that is contagious, and endless rounds of peek-a-boos with babies; and if those things have God's fingerprints, then God's house surely exudes joy.

**People: Light the candle of joy.**

Leader: In God's house, there is love—

Because God is love, from start to finish, and that love is for us all.

**People: Light the candle of love.**

Leader: And in the center of our hope,

**People: In the center of our peace,**

Leader: In the center of our joy,

**People: In the center of our love, is God—**

Leader: who came to this earth to live among us. So tonight we light the Christ candle, for God's love is born to us in a baby in a manger.

**People: Welcome home. Amen.**

## CAROL

### O Come, All Ye Faithful

**1** O come, all ye faithful,  
Joyful and triumphant,  
O come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem!  
Come, and behold Him,  
Born the King of angels!

#### Refrain:

O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
Christ, the Lord!

#41

### ADESTE FIDELES

**2** Yea, Lord, we greet Thee,  
Born this happy morning,  
Jesus, to Thee be all glory given;  
Word of the Father,  
Now in flesh appearing! [Refrain]

**3** Sing, choirs of angels,  
Sing in exultation!  
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven  
above!  
Glory to God, all  
Glory in the highest! [Refrain]

## CALL TO CONFSSION

### PRAYER OF CONFSSION

**You love us wider than the ocean, God.**

**But sometimes we forget.**

**Your peace is calmer than the most quiet night, God.**

**But sometimes our minds are noisy.**

**You want us to love our neighbors taller than the trees, God.**

**But sometimes we only love them an itsy bit.**

**Forgive us, God. Help us to love like you—tall and wide.**

**And help us share your peace in the world.**

**In Jesus' name, amen.**

## ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Open our eyes, so that we can see like Jesus.

Open our ears, so that we can listen for God's voice.

Open our minds, so that we can learn something new.

Open our hearts, so that we might feel God's love.

Amen.

## SACRED STORY Interactive Nativity

### SACRED SONG

#### Away in a Manger

#25

MUELLER

**1** Away in a manger, no crib for His bed,  
The little Lord Jesus laid down His  
sweet head.  
The stars in the sky looked down where  
He lay,  
The little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.

**2** The cattle are lowing, the poor  
Baby wakes,  
But little Lord Jesus, no crying He  
makes.  
I love Thee, Lord Jesus, look down  
from the sky,  
And stay by my cradle till morning  
is nigh.

3 Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask Thee  
to stay  
Close by me forever and love me, I  
pray.  
Bless all the dear children in Thy  
tender care,  
And fit us for heaven to live with  
Thee there.

SACRED STORY: *The Message of the Birds* by Kate Westerlund and Feridun Oral

## SACRED IMAGINATION

### EMBODIED PRAYER

#### CALL FOR OFFERING

Call to Give

Offertory

Hark the Herald Angels Sing

arr. Paul Baloche

Contemporary Ensemble

\*Response -

#36

In the Bleak Midwinter

Verse 4

CRANHAM

4 What can I give Him,  
Poor as I am?  
If I were a shepherd,  
I would bring a lamb;  
If I were a wise man,  
I would do my part;  
Yet what I can I give Him:  
Give my heart.

\*Prayer of Dedication

#### CANDLE LIGHTING

#60

Silent Night

Verse 1, 3 & 4

STILLE NACHT

1 Silent night, holy night!  
All is calm, all is bright,  
Round yon virgin mother and Child!  
Holy Infant, so tender and mild,  
Sleep in heavenly peace,  
Sleep in heavenly peace.

3 Silent night, holy night!  
Son of God, love's pure light  
Radiant beams from Thy holy  
face,  
With the dawn of redeeming  
grace,  
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth,  
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.

**4** Silent night, holy night!  
Wondrous star, lend thy light;  
With the angels let us sing,  
Alleluia to our King;  
Christ the Savior is born,  
Christ the Savior is born!

## BENEDICTION

### CAROL

Go, Tell It on the Mountain

#29

Go TELL IT

#### Refrain:

Go, tell it on the mountain  
Over the hills and everywhere;  
Go, tell it on the mountain,  
That Jesus Christ is born.

**1** While shepherds kept their  
watching  
O'er silent flocks by night,  
Behold throughout the heavens  
There shone a holy light. (Refrain)

**2** The shepherds feared and trembled,  
When lo! above the earth,  
Rang out the angels chorus  
That hailed our Savior's birth. (Refrain)

**3** Down in a lowly manger  
The humble Christ was born,  
And God sent us salvation  
That blessed Christmas morn.  
(Refrain)

POSTLUDE Postlude on "ANTIOCH"

Richard Purvis